IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Presented) A method for authenticating at least one of a media and data stored on said media in order to prevent at least one of piracy, unauthorized access and unauthorized copying of the data stored on said media, wherein predetermined errors are introduced with the data ~~into mixed data~~ and storing the ~~mixed~~ data on said media, the predetermined errors comprising at least one authentication key or component thereof, for authenticating whether the at least one of said media and data is authorized, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) reading the ~~mixed~~ data from said media;

(b) ~~detecting~~ determining the predetermined errors from the ~~mixed~~ data;

(c) comparing the predetermined errors to the at least one authentication key or component thereof;

(d) authenticating the at least one of the media and the data ~~in the mixed data~~ responsive to the comparing step;

(e) removing the predetermined errors from the ~~mixed~~ data via a decoding operation resulting in substantially the data; and

(f) outputting the data as at least one of audio, video, audio data, video data and digital data substantially free of the predetermined errors.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined errors comprise on-off binary codes representing ones and zeros to represent a predetermined pattern usable as the at least one authentication key or component thereof.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said outputting step (f) further includes converting the data to a stereo analog signal without transferring, in the data, the predetermined errors used as the at least one authentication key or component thereof.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said method further includes the step of embedding both said predetermined errors and said data onto a data disc on at least one of a per track basis and on an interval basis throughout the disc, such that the authentication is performed at least for at least one of each track to be played, throughout playback and recording.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said authenticating step further includes the step of authenticating using a different authentication key for each track.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further including the step of using a process defined in at least one of the configuring, intentionally embedding, introducing and outputting steps, as a multi-level authentication system containing at least two different authentication keys, each of which successively must be authenticated before said corrected data is finally output.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further including the step of at least one of performing said method over a plurality of inter-connected computer networks comprising at least one of a local network, a global network, and the Internet.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said authenticating step further comprises authenticating the at least one of the media and the data, wherein the media is at least one of read from and recorded to at least one of a disc player, a disc recorder, a computer, a work station and a network of computers.

9. (Currently Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said reading step (a) further comprises the step of at least one of decoding and decrypting the ~~mixed~~ data from said media.

10. (Currently Presented) A method for authenticating at least one of a media and data stored on said media in order to prevent at least one of piracy, unauthorized access and unauthorized copying of the data stored on said media, wherein at least one predetermined error is introduced with the data ~~into mixed data~~ and storing the ~~mixed~~ data on said media, the at least one predetermined error comprising at least one authentication key or component thereof, for authenticating whether the at least one of said media and data is authorized;

said method comprising the steps of:

(a) reading the ~~mixed~~ data ~~from said media~~;

(b) detecting the at least one predetermined error from the ~~mixed~~ data;

(c) comparing the at least one predetermined error to the at least one authentication key or component thereof;

(d) authenticating the at least one of the media and the data ~~in the mixed data~~ responsive to the comparing step;

(e) removing the at least one predetermined error from the ~~mixed~~ data resulting in substantially the data; and

(f) outputting the data as at least one of audio, video, audio data, video data and digital data substantially free of the at least one predetermined error.

11. (Currently Presented) In a method for authenticating at least one of data stored to be stored on ~~said~~ at least one media in order to prevent at least one of piracy, unauthorized access and unauthorized copying of the data ~~stored on said media~~, a data message comprising at least one predetermined error introduced in the data message comprising ~~a mixed~~ the data message,

the at least one predetermined error comprising at least one authentication key or component thereof, used in authenticating whether the data message is authorized, and wherein the predetermined errors are sufficiently minimal such that the at least one predetermined error is capable of being removed therefrom without substantially altering an audible component of the data message, and wherein the data message is transmitted substantially free of the at least one predetermined error preventing a destination processor from the at least one predetermined error comprising the at least one authentication key or component thereof, used in the authenticating whether the data message is authorized.

12. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the predetermined errors comprise on-off binary codes representing ones and zeros to represent a predetermined pattern usable as the at least one authentication key or component thereof.

13. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein said outputting step (f) further includes converting the data to a stereo analog signal without transferring, in the data, the predetermined errors used as the at least one authentication key or component thereof.

14. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein said method further includes the step of embedding both said predetermined errors and said data onto a data disc on at least one of a per track basis and on an interval basis throughout the disc, such that the authentication is performed at least for at least one of each track to be played, throughout playback and recording.

15. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein said authenticating step further includes the step of authenticating using a different authentication key for each track.

16. (New) A method according to claim 10, further including the step of using a process defined in at least one of the configuring, intentionally embedding, introducing and outputting

steps, as a multi-level authentication system containing at least two different authentication keys, each of which successively must be authenticated before said corrected data is finally output.

17. (New) A method according to claim 10, further including the step of at least one of performing said method over a plurality of inter-connected computer networks comprising at least one of a local network, a global network, and the Internet.

18. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein said authenticating step further comprises authenticating the at least one of the media and the data, wherein the media is at least one of read from and recorded to at least one of a disc player, a disc recorder, a computer, a work station and a network of computers.

19. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein said reading step (a) further comprises the step of at least one of decoding and decrypting the data from said media.

20. (New) In a method according to claim 11, wherein the predetermined errors comprise on-off binary codes representing ones and zeros to represent a predetermined pattern usable as the at least one authentication key or component thereof.

21. (New) In a method according to claim 11, wherein said outputting step (f) further includes converting the data to a stereo analog signal without transferring, in the data, the predetermined errors used as the at least one authentication key or component thereof.

22. (New) In a method according to claim 11, wherein said method further includes the step of embedding both said predetermined errors and said data onto a data disc on at least one of a per track basis and on an interval basis throughout the disc, such that the authentication is performed at least for at least one of each track to be played, throughout playback and recording.

23. (New) In a method according to claim 11, wherein said authenticating step further includes the step of authenticating using a different authentication key for each track.

24. (New) In a method according to claim 11, further including the step of using a process defined in at least one of the configuring, intentionally embedding, introducing and outputting steps, as a multi-level authentication system containing at least two different authentication keys, each of which successively must be authenticated before said corrected data is finally output.

25. (New) In a method according to claim 11, further including the step of at least one of performing said method over a plurality of inter-connected computer networks comprising at least one of a local network, a global network, and the Internet.

26. (New) In a method according to claim 11, wherein said authenticating step further comprises authenticating the at least one of the media and the data, wherein the media is at least one of read from and recorded to at least one of a disc player, a disc recorder, a computer, a work station and a network of computers.

27. (New) In a method according to claim 11, wherein said reading step (a) further comprises the step of at least one of decoding and decrypting the data from said media.